

GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM
Primary Lessons: Phase 1 – Lesson 7
The First Disciples (Matthew 4:18-25)

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. The Lord was now sufficiently prepared to begin His three years of public ministry.
- B. The Lord calls all of us to follow Him as His disciples. We hear His call when we learn about Him and His Word. We follow Him when we do what He wants us to do instead of what we want to do.

II. Story Circle

A. Introduction

- 1. The Word doesn't tell us very much about Jesus' growing up in Nazareth. We do know about Jesus amazing the teachers in the temple when He was just 15 years old because He knew so much about the Old Testament. And we know from the Word about His baptism by John the Baptist, which was our story last time.
- 2. After His baptism, Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness. Then He called His first four disciples and began to teach, preach, and heal people. The Lord began this work when He was about 30 years old.
- 3. Do you know what a disciple is? (A learner) The disciples followed the Lord, watching what He did and listening to Him. And they helped with His work.

B. Tell/Read the Story:

- 1. Read aloud Matthew 4:18-25.

C. Ideas to Discuss

- 1. While the Lord was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, He saw two men who were brothers. What were their names? (Peter and Andrew)
- 2. What were Peter and Andrew doing? (Casting a net into the sea, i.e., fishing)
- 3. What did Jesus say to them? ("Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.")
- 4. What did Peter and Andrew do? (They left their nets and followed Him.)
- 5. Who were the other two brothers whom the Lord called to follow Him? (James and John)
- 6. Where were James and John, and what were they doing, when Jesus called them? (In the boat with their father, mending their nets)

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7. Jesus traveled all about Galilee. What was He doing? (Teaching, preaching, and healing sickness and disease)
8. What happened when His fame spread, that is, when people everywhere were talking about the amazing things He did? (They brought people to Him to be healed, and great multitudes— large crowds of people— from many places followed Him.)

D. Further Ideas

1. Can you imagine yourself all of a sudden dropping what you were doing to follow after the Lord? The four fishermen realized that Jesus was someone special when He called them, so they were willing to obey Him and to leave their own work to follow Him.
2. The Lord calls all of us to follow Him as His disciples. We hear His call when we learn about Him and His Word, and we follow Him when we do what He wants us to do instead of what we want to do.

III. Enrichment Activities (Do as many as time permits)

A. Music

1. "See the Savior in the temple," HYMNAL #166.
2. "The Twelve Disciples," LORI'S SONGS II (Suggest listening to this song on the tape, perhaps during project time.)

B. Activities

C. Project: COLLAGE OF THE LORD CALLING PETER AND ANDREW

1. Materials Needed

- a. 12 X 18 blue construction paper
- b. netting (purchase at fabric store, or use plastic onion bags)
- c. goldfish crackers
- d. stapler
- e. crayons, felt markers, and/or oil pastels
- f. optional: aquarium sand, sea shells, and glue

2. Method

- a. Tell the children that the blue paper is the Sea of Galilee.
- b. They can create the shore using aquarium sand, seashells, and glue, or they can draw it in. Then depict Jesus walking along the shore toward the spot where Peter and Andrew have been drawn in, casting their net.
- c. Fashion a net from the purchased netting or onion bag, fill it with some goldfish crackers to represent their catch, and staple the net to the page.

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- d. Encourage the children to add touches that will bring their cottage to life, such as small boats, birds, *etc.*

IV. Teaching Aids

- A. Picture of Jesus calling the fishermen as His first disciples
- B. Picture of Jesus teaching and healing people

V. Further Reading for the Teacher

- A. Dole's BIBLE STUDY NOTES, Vol. 4, Matthew 4:12-25.